

00862.022325.



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
YOSHINORI ABE) : Examiner: Lucas Divine
Application No.: 09/921,556) : Group Art Unit: 2624
Filed: August 6, 2001) :
For: CONTROLLING A CLUSTER)
OPERATION (As Amended) : March 3, 2006

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, a Request For Continued Examination being filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the Office Action dated November 3, 2005, the period for response to which having been extended to March 3, 2006 by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time with fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

March 3, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Frank L. Cire (Reg. No. 42,419)
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)
Signature

March 3, 2006
Date of Signature